STEM COUNCIL MEETING

EQUITY WORKING GROUP UPDATE

Evelyn K. Davis Center for Working Families

January 31, 2020

Equity Working Group Frame

Vision: This working group will develop a comprehensive set of best practices for various stakeholders that ultimately increases the representativeness of stem-related employees in Iowa to be proportional to that of the K-12 school population.

Mission: Identifying best practices through empirical evidence, data, and assessment.

Guiding Principle: "What does the data say?"

Best Practice Areas

1. Increase engagement in STEM areas of study.

2. Create inclusive STEM-focused learning spaces.

3. Ensure inclusive and accessible STEM-related opportunities.

INCREASE ENGAGEMENT IN STEM AREAS OF STUDY

Kingsley Botchway II

Increase engagement in STEM areas of study

Recommendations

1. Identify existing programs to introduce and embed STEM initiatives.

2. Consistently and intentionally seek out input from stakeholders on key decision points.

3. Increase representation among those who interact with students to help underrepresented students see themselves in STEM-related roles.

CREATE INCLUSIVE STEM-FOCUSED LEARNING SPACES

Michael Young, Ph.D.

Create inclusive STEM-focused learning spaces

Recommendations

1. Identify a consistent set of inclusive and STEM-focused curriculum and instructional practices.

2. Design physical space that promotes inclusive STEM-related learning.

3. Develop a STEM Culture within the learning space.

ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE STEM-RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

Monic Behnken, J.D., Ph.D.

Ensure inclusive and accessible STEM-related opportunities

Recommendations

1. Maintain a searchable database of afterschool STEM-related programs to centralize opportunities.

2. Districts should conduct an equity audit to review the inclusiveness and accessibility of their STEM-related opportunities.

3. Schools should ask their students' perceptions of the inclusiveness and accessibility of STEM-related opportunities.